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Stonney Rivers DOC#910247  
Clallam Bay Correction Center  
1830 Eagle Crest Way, I/B-12  
Clallam Bay, WA., 98326-9723

Received & Inspected

MAR 04 2013

February 25, 2013

FCC Mail Room

Federal Communications Commission  
Attn: Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
445 12th Street SW Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC., 20554

Dear Secretary Dortch,

I, Stonney Rivers have been incarcerated since 1995 and was sent here to CBCC to serve my Life Without Parole sentence, as a 3-Striker.

Since the beginning of my incarceration staying in contact with my family / friends has been very hard. Between February 3, 1996 to December 31, 2000 I believe AT&T was the contract phone company. Clallam Bay Correction Center is one of several that overcharged family / friends who accepted my local collect calls. Reading Prisoner's Legal News, I've come to learn that after a lawsuit, a settlement of some \$1,412,500.00 is available for family / friends to submit their claims at number 1-877-271-5522, and online as [www.ratedisclosure.com](http://www.ratedisclosure.com).

In 2004, then Washington State Governor Gary Locke approved Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6352. Summary: The Department of Corrections is authorized to approve a new calling system which is at least as secure as the previous system. Consideration must be given to public safety, reduction of telephone fraud, and low-cost options. The requirement that offenders make only "collect" calls is removed. New Sec. 1, The legislature now finds that the current statute prevents the Secretary of Corrections from using systems that provide greater security, more offender accountability, and lower costs. Therefore, the legislature intends to remove this barrier while retaining the intent of the statute to provide safe, accountable, and affordable telephone services. Sec. 2 RCW 9.73.095 and 1998 c217 s2 are each amended to read as follows: (2)(a) All personal calls made by offenders shall be made using a calling system approved by the Secretary of Corrections which is at least as secure as the system it replaces. In approving one or more calling systems, the Secretary of Corrections shall consider the safety of the public, the ability to reduce telephone fraud, and the ability of offender families to select a low-cost option.

Global Tel-Link became our telephone provider for 2-3 years. Approximately late 2009 Value Added Communications became our phone provider. VAC & WA. DOC January 8, 2010 Notice bulletin No. 7 states offenders CANNOT place funds on a phone account utilizing their offender bank account. This program is intended for offender friends and family only.

Being offender accountable, I was able to add funds to my pre-paid account to both above named phone providers. June 26, 2009 \$50.00 to Global Tel-Link Advance Pay Service, and June 18, 2010 \$25.00 to VAC Dept. 2430. My third attempt was denied as well as all 3 levels of the Grievance procedures. While at Monroe Corrections Complex at the time, I submitted a proposal to Scott Frakes, then Superintendent, and Joenne McGerr, Family Program at WA.DOC HQ in January 2011, and again in April 2011 not receiving any response approving or why the denial of not

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allowing offenders to be accountable and add funds to their own pre-paid phone accounts. With any other purchases besides our family / friends, we offenders are allowed to purchase, monthly vendor items, quarterly religious items, and JPay.com Media account for songs, cost of printed mail attachments, e-stamps, etc.

Being a Tier-Representative while at Monroe Corrections Complex, VAC Representative stated that they accept money orders, cashier's check from family / friends, offenders, whomever, without charging a transaction fee. It's WA.DOC that forces the offender to rely on family / friends preventing offender accountability.

My Mom died 2006, I depend on my 69 year old Aunt. To avoid the \$5.95 credit / debit card transaction fee I've had my Aunt send money orders to VAC, adding funds to my pre-paid V-Direct Debit Account. Once it went through, twice it has gone to her land-line without refund or correction. My Aunt is now forced to use her credit card, recently adding \$100.00 to my pre-paid V-Direct Debit Account with the \$5.95 transaction fee being deducted from the \$100.00, which left me with \$94.05 added to my account. See attached Request to Transfer Funds, posted from I/M Accounts July 19, 2010. Also a copy of a letter I sent to VAC, no response, and old call list.

September 2011 I filed for Clemency Petition, June 8, 2012 I had a public hearing, See TVW.org clemency hearing of Stonney Rivers June 8, 2012. January 2, 2013 Governor Christine Gregoire commuted my Life Without Parole sentence, providing me a release date of January 31, 2015. I've had to network via mail, JPay.com e-messages, and phone which was extremely hard. I'm now transitioning back, (possibility through work camp), for sure through work release for the last six months of my new sentence. I still need to communicate with family / friends to ensure my transition back to the community is a success.

Besides myself, there are offenders who have no family / friends they can rely on, but would like to be accountable by adding funds to their pre-paid V-Direct Account with money from their offender bank accounts. Additionally, some offenders are indigent and having at least one free call per month could help them rebuild relationships with children, parents, etc.

Calls drop as often as WA.DOC and/or VAC allows, by claiming 3-way call alert when no one makes the attempt to make 3-way call, not even have 3-way calling features on their phone! Per \$3.60 for each 20 minute call WA.DOC collects approximately 0.75¢ so they stand to gain as much as possible. I would, of course talk to family / friends more if prepaid call rates were lower. Although WA.DOC phone rates are now cheaper than the once contract with AT&T for 20 minutes for up to \$22.00. Now \$3.60 is still too expensive for a 20 minute local collect call for family / friends, some on fixed incomes. The AT&T contract that ended June 30, 2005 and WA.DOC gained \$3.8 million that fiscal year. New contracts guarantees WA.DOC \$5.1 million a year! See April 17, 2005, The News Tribune, Prisoners get break on phone calls, yeah right.

I hope the info. I've provided is of use to you and you're able to help us with cheaper phone rates, offender accountability, free calling each month, less dropped calls. Thanks for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Stonney Rivers*  
Stonney Rivers

You may contact my aunt.  
Betty Thompson-Hayes  
7946 45<sup>th</sup> Ave. So.  
Seattle, WA. 98118  
(206) 725-8864



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

2010 JUL 19 PM 12 31

OFFENDER REQUEST TO TRANSFER FUNDS  
PEDIDO DEL INTERNO PARA TRANSFERIR

Please Print/LETRA DE MOLDE

OFFENDER COMPLETES THIS SECTION

Offender Name/NOMBRE DEL INTERNO

STONNEY RIVERS

Please deduct sufficient funds from my account to cover the cost of: / Favor

VAC, V-Direct Debit Account

Facility/INSTITUCION

MONROE CORR.COMPLEX, WA, State Re

Pay To/PAGA A

VAC Dept. 2430, V-Direct Debit A

Address/DIRECCION

Street/CALLE

P.O. BOX 122-430

Dall

Purpose/PROPOSITO

V-Direct Debit Acct. S. Rivers #910247, MCC/MSRCA

Offender's Signature/FIRMA DEL INTERNO

*Stonney Rivers*

Counselor's Signature/FIRMA DEL CONSEJERO/A (if required/Si es qu

*J.D. GARNER*

ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT

Comments

Check Number/NUMERO DE CHEQUE

Dt

Phone accounts are only to be  
set up and paid for by friends  
and/or family.

A. Light  
1/11 Accounts  
7/19/10

PLEASE ATTACH A SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

Distribution: WHITE - Accounting/CONTABILIDAD  
DOC 06-075 (Rev. 1/29/09)

FAVOR DE ADJUNTAR UN SOBRE CON SU NOMBRE Y DIRECCION.

YELLOW - Counselor/CONSEJERO/A

PINK - Offender/INTERNO

DOC 200.000, DOC 210.060, DOC 440.000, DOC 590.500